

Approved For Release 2003/08/26 : CIA-RDP79R00890A001100120003-9

NSC BRIEFING

16 December 1959

CUBA

I. Cuba actively pursuing neutralist foreign policy and seeking closer ties with Afro-Asian bloc.

A. Shift toward neutralism began on return of pro-Communist "Che" Guevara in September from 3-month trip to nine Afro-Asian countries and Yugoslavia.

B. Foreign Minister Raul Roa informed UN General Assembly in September that Cuba regarded US and USSR systems as twin evils and would ally itself with underdeveloped nations of world.

1. Roa planning trip to Cairo in January, which may extend to other Afro-Asian countries.

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E. Cuba issued public statement suggesting conference of underdeveloped countries for mid-1960 in Havana. Attendance of 28 Afro-Asian and some Latin American nations proposed, but we have no evidence that invitations have been issued.

NSA review completed

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II. Cuba may also be drawing closer to Sino-Soviet bloc.

A. Soviet exhibition, which closed in Mexico 15 December,
to open in Havana in February.

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B. [REDACTED] Roa plans
visit to Communist China in January.

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